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GERMANS MAKE LAST DESPERATE STAND NORTH OF THE RIVER AISNE

Final Outcome of Mighty Struggle in West Still Rests With Army of Crown Prince Frederick William

UNCONFIRMED DISPATCH REPORTS SURRENDER OF GENERAL VON KLUCK WITH 25,000 MEN

RETREAT OF GERMANS NOT YET DEFEAT

London Military Experts Inclined to Doubt Surrender of Von Kluck and Portion of Great Army of the Right.

ALLIES HAVE NOT YET BROKEN GERMAN LINE

Authorities Point Out That With Army of Crown Prince Standing Firm Kaiser's Victory Still Possible.

London, Sept. 15 (4:00 p. m.)—The occupation of Rheims by the allied troops was announced by the official press bureau this afternoon as follows: "The allied troops have occupied Rheims. Six hundred prisoners and twelve guns were captured yesterday by the corps on the right of the British."

London, Sept. 15 (4:05 p. m.)—A statement given out by the official press bureau this afternoon says: "The enemy is still occupying a strong position to the north of the Aisne and fighting is going on along the whole line. The crown prince's army has been driven further back and is now on the line of Varennes, Conslensville and Orens."

Paris, Sept. 15 (2:55 p. m.)—The western and central armies of the German forces continued their resistance today north of the river Aisne and north of Rheims and Chateau. While the eastern army is retreating, this is the substance of the French official communication given out this afternoon. The text of the communication is as follows: "On our left wing, during the day of yesterday, the Germans offered resistance on the north side of the river Aisne along a line marked by the forest of L'Angle and Graucourt (twelve miles southeast of Laon)."

"On our center, the German line of resistance was located yesterday to the north of Rheims and of Chateau. In order to reach Vienne, a town in the western section of the Argonne region, the forces of the enemy which were in the southern part of the Argonne hastened their movement of retreat. In passing between the Argonne region and the river Meuse, their front yesterday at the end of the day extended from Varennes to Conslensville."

"On our right wing the Germans were doubling back on Futa (in France) and on Metz, Delme and Chateau Salins (all in Lorraine). In the Vosges and in Alsace the situation progressed. In Belgium the Belgian army is continuing to operate around Antwerp, causing serious losses to the enemy."

London, Sept. 15 (2:35 p. m.)

As has been the case since the commencement of the battle of the Marne over a week ago, the final outcome of the mighty struggle seems to depend on the army of the Crown Prince Frederick William in the German center, the headquarters of which has been retired to Mont-faucon.

As this town is fifteen miles to the northwest of Verdun the crown prince's move seems to imply the approaching relief of that French fortress, which his army has been besieging for a week past. However, no news of the actual situation there has yet come through, nor is official confirmation of the reported fall of the fortified position of Mont-faucon forthcoming from French sources.

A dispatch from the German general staff on the battle of the Marne, received in London today, suffered at the hands of the censor. In its truncated form the only claim made for the German army is that of having successfully defeated the French endeavor to break through the German lines.

This apparently is quite true, unless the report from Dieppe this afternoon, alleging that General Von Kluck's army on the German right had been forced to surrender, turns out to be correct. Up to the present there has been no confirmation of the story.

In any case, from the estimates given of the numbers of the troops surrendered, which according to one report was 15,000, and according to another 25,000, it would be a misnomer to call it a surrender of General Von Kluck's army, which must total in the neighborhood of 100,000.

That Von Kluck's position is a difficult one seems to be unquestionable, if, as reported, the German line is swinging its extreme right back to the Meuse in the vicinity of Metz, Verdun, St. Quentin and Peronne.

General Von Kluck, however, has shown a masterful skill and, even should he have been forced to sacrifice a part of his army to an offensive stroke of the British and French allies, and unless beaten by a break in the weather which is turning the roads into quagmires and making transport most difficult, observers here are of the opinion that he will reach his appointed position.

BELGIAN COMMISSION MAKES REPORT ON LOUVAIN

London, Sept. 15 (1:30 p. m.)—The official press bureau acting for the Belgian legation in London has made public the second report of the Belgian commission appointed to inquire into alleged German atrocities at Louvain and in the district around Malines.

The report reviews incidents heretofore generally reported, but it adds the documents and evidence on which its conclusions rest. The commission finds that on entering Louvain the Germans requisitioned food and lodging, German troops took possession of the cash in all Louvain banks, burnt open houses and pillaged and committed other excesses.

The report then relates with considerable detail two alleged instances in which women were outraged by German soldiers and asserts that there have been instances where women and children have been stabbed with bayonets and their legs cut off. One case is cited where a woman, covered with kerosene, was thrown into a burning house.

Of the burning of Louvain, the report says: "Everything tends to prove that"

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RUSSIAN ARMY OF VILNA WIPED OUT

Official Announcement of a Complete Defeat of Czar's Main Invading Force by Germans in East Prussia.

BERLIN SILENT ON SITUATION IN FRANCE

Austrian Ministry Frightened Into Silence by Repeated Defeats in Galicia; 150,000 Servians in Hungary.

Berlin (By Wireless to New York, via Cayville, La. 13)—Sept. 15.—It was officially announced in Berlin today that Baron Von Hindenburg has telegraphed Emperor William that the Russian army of Vilna, composed of the second, third, fourth and twentieth army corps, two reserve divisions and five divisions of cavalry, has been completely defeated by the Germans. The Russian casualties were heavy.

The number of Russian prisoners is increasing. General Von Hindenburg goes on, and the destruction of the Russian army continues. There have been spoils of war in enormous quantities.

The Russian army of Grondo has been defeated at Lyck. It comprised, in addition to the twenty-second corps, the remainder of the Sixth corps and a part of the third Siberian corps. The German headquarters announced at midnight last night that the heavy fighting in France was still undecided. The French result, it was said, had been repulsed.

Prince Joachim, the youngest son of Emperor William, who was wounded in battle, is reported to be doing well.

A dispatch received here from Constantinople says that certain British naval instructors in Turkey, accused of having committed depredations, have been prevented from doing further harm. It is further declared in this message that the wireless apparatus has been removed from the British embassy in Constantinople.

RUSSIANS ANNOUNCE WAY OPEN TO PEZMYSKI

Petrograd, Sept. 15, via London (5:48 p. m.)—The general staff issued an announcement as follows: "Russian troops are progressing along the lower stretch of the San river without meeting resistance from the defeated enemy, who continue to retreat."

"After having occupied Grodek, sixteen miles west of Lemberg, and reached Munkacs, thirty-seven miles south by west of Lemberg, the Russians find themselves within a single day's march of Presov."

"There was no fighting on Mon-

day in eastern Prussia.

"Emperor Nicholas has conferred the decoration of the Order of St. George on Lieutenant General Radko Dimitrieff for his eminent services in the field."

"WE STAND WELL," SAY AUSTRIA-HUNGARY MINISTERS

Vienna, Sept. 15 (10 a. m.) via Paris, Sept. 15 (11 a. m.)—The news of Russia's increasingly vigorous occupation of eastern Galicia is exerting a depressing influence in Austria-Hungarian official circles and among the more intelligent classes of the monarchy, but up to the present time the mass of the people seem credulously willing to accept as satisfactory the meager official bulletins given out by the authorities. They welcome eagerly any report which seems half way encouraging.

That anxiety is felt in higher circles, however, is manifested by the long conferences the ministers of the dual monarchy are holding constantly at Schoenbrunn with Emperor Francis Joseph.

The newspapers of Vienna maintain an extraordinary reserve, concerning the progress of the campaigns in Galicia and on the Serbian frontier. The only journal offering any comment on the latter situation was the Neue Freie Presse, which said:

"We can say nothing more than that the moral quality of the Austrian and Hungarian troops must eventually prove victorious."

A telegram received in Vienna from Budapest quotes the Hungarian minister of national defense as saying:

"We stand well. Our position everywhere is good; more than that I cannot say."

The frequent optimistic public utterances of Count Stephan Tisa, the Hungarian premier, latterly have ceased and the official bulletins given out in Budapest are silent regarding the campaign against Serbia.

RUSSIAN BULLETINS CLAIM LIST OF UNBROKEN SUCCESSES

London, Sept. 15 (1:22 p. m.)—A dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph company from Petrograd says that after the capture of Opole and Tour-chine, Russian forces have hemmed the enemy into an angle formed by the junction of the river Vistula and the river San.

150,000 SERBIAN TROOPS NOW ON AUSTRIAN SOIL

London, Sept. 15 (2:45 p. m.)—According to a statement issued here today by the Serbian legation, there are now in Hungary at least 150,000 Serbian troops, successfully pushing an offensive movement against the forces of the dual monarchy.

The Austrians are entrenching at all strategic points on all the roads leading to Budapest. A large Serbian army is marching toward Frish-bagof, a position of great importance.

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SPEEDING 'FRISCO TRAIN PLUNGES THROUGH TRESTLE NEAR LEBANON MISSOURI

Between Thirty-Five and Forty-Five Persons Killed When Locomotive, Baggage Car and Forward Chair Car Fall Into Swollen Brush Creek; Passengers in Chair Car Drowned Like Rats in a Trap.

St. Louis, Sept. 15.—At 2:45 this afternoon only the names of nine dead passengers had been received at the Frisco office here, though 25 bodies had been recovered. Identification was difficult because many of those in the submerged cars had partly disintegrated in the night. Many were drowned as they slept.

St. Louis, Sept. 15.—St. Louis and San Francisco train No. 5, westbound, known as the "Texas Limited," plunged into a cloud-burst near Lebanon, Mo., 182 miles southwest of here early today, and before the engineers could stop the train, the track gave way and the engine and four cars rolled into a gully swollen by the flood.

Thirty-five to forty-five persons were drowned and probably a score injured. The four sleeping cars remained on the track and the passengers in those coaches rushed forward to rescue those imprisoned in the cars submerged in 12 feet of water. By noon 25 bodies had been recovered.

The engineer, describing his experiences, said the train was running slowly when the cloud-burst occurred. A wall of water swept across the track and appeared to be rushing toward the train. The engineer closed the throttle but just then the embankment gave way.

Springfield, Mo., Sept. 15.—Between thirty-five and forty-five persons were killed and a score of others injured early today when the locomotive, baggage car and forward chair car of St. Louis & San Francisco train No. 5 plunged through a trestle over Brush creek near Lebanon, Mo., and were submerged in the swollen stream.

Most of the dead were drowned in the chair car and a great number of these were women and children. Those who were able to escape from their watery prison fought their way out by breaking windows and swimming to shore. It is estimated there were sixty-five passengers in the chair car.

Due to poor communication with the scene of the wreck it is impossible to give a definite estimate of how many escaped. None of the small streams in the vicinity to the small streams in the vicinity to the scene of the wreck it is impossible to give a definite estimate of how many escaped.

One man in the chair car lost his wife and five children. When the accident occurred he was thrown clear of the descending chair car and swam to shore. In the submerged car his wife and children met their deaths, while he stood nearby unable to save them.

Heavy rains last week caused all the small streams in the vicinity to rise. The train was late because of the flooded conditions. As it passed Lebanon, according to reports reaching here, its speed was increased to make up lost time.

The railroad officials announced the injured would be brought to Springfield this afternoon. The dead are being placed in hastily arranged morgues at Lebanon.

One of the passengers in the submerged chair car was Miss Mona Campbell, a nurse at St. Louis. She broke a window and climbed out to the side of the car.

Stranded in water she left about until she touched the hands of drowning passengers. As she grasped a hand she pulled with all her strength. In this way she rescued five passengers.

U. S. TROOPS ORDERED HOME FROM VERA CRUZ

Constitutionalists Assume Charge of National Railways of Mexico on Ground of Stock Control.

FORMAL PROTEST TO WASHINGTON MADE

Headquarters of National Railways Kick When Provisional President Kicks Out all Operating Employees.

Washington, Sept. 15.—American troops have been ordered withdrawn from Vera Cruz.

Washington, Sept. 15.—H. Von Eckhardt, the newly appointed German minister to Mexico, asked Secretary Bryan today when the United States would recognize a new government and learned that no conclusion had been reached.

CARRANZA'S MEN TAKE OVER ALL MEXICAN RAILROADS

Washington, Sept. 15.—General John R. Sullivan reported from Mexico City today that the constitutionalists have taken possession of the National Railways of Mexico and renamed them Constitutional Railways of Mexico.

Mr. Sullivan reported that General Carranza's government has taken possession of the lines on the ground that the Mexican government owns a majority of the stock. The authorized capital is \$230,000,000 gold, of which practically all the common stock is held by the Mexican government. The system has a total mileage of more than six thousand, mostly standard gauge. There are various kinds of bonds of the principal company and the constituent companies the system absorbed in 1905. The total of stocks and bonds is nearly \$300,000,000.

ALL OFFICERS OF OLD MANAGEMENT KICKED OUT

New York, Sept. 15.—Word was received today at the headquarters of the National Railways of Mexico that the constitutional government had expelled all operating and other officials of the road in Mexico from their positions and substituted its own employees. It was announced here that this will be made the subject of an official complaint to the Washington government as an act of confiscation on the part of the constitutionalists.

RAILROADS PETITION FOR RE-HEARING IN ADVANCE RATE CASE

Washington, Sept. 15.—The eastern railways formally petitioned the interstate commerce commission today for a rehearing in the eastern advance rate case, and to permit them to put into effect the five per cent increase which the commission recently denied.